J. A. McCreary,

Blind Stop.

No. 36,960 Patented Nov. 18, 1862.

Fig: 1.

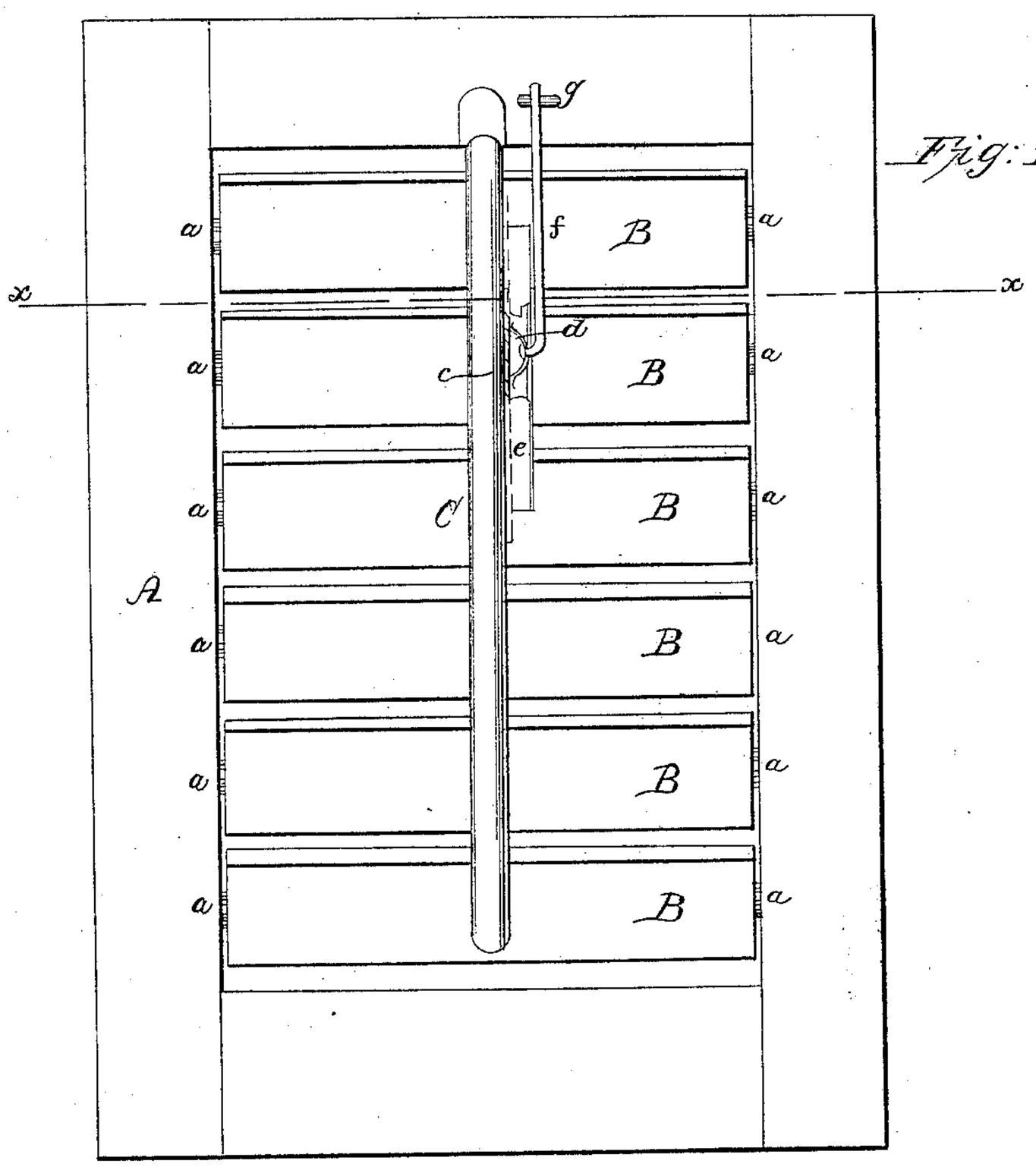
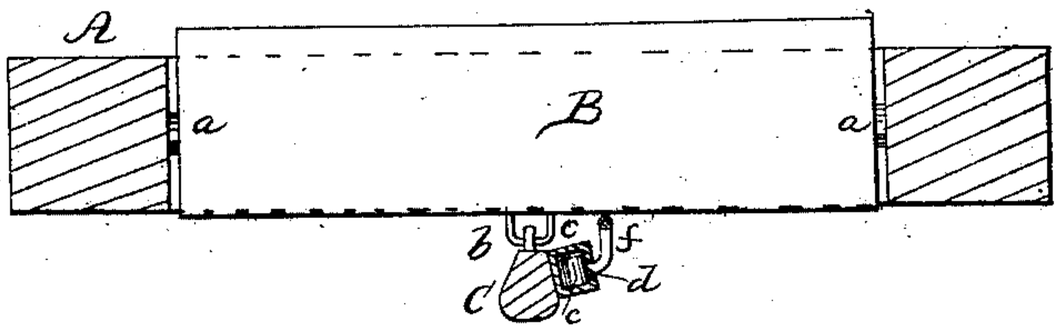


Fig: 2.



Witnesses:

James Laird

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

J. A. McCREARY, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN DEVICES FOR HOLDING BLIND-SLATS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **36,960**, dated November 18, 1862.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES A. McCREARY, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Device for Holding the Slats of Window-Blinds; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a face view of a window-blind with my improved attachment. Fig. 2 is a horizontatal section of the same, taken in the plane indicated by the line *x x*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the two figures.

This invention consists in the arrangement of a hinged swivel-rod, in combination with a friction-slide and with the slat-bar and frame of a blind in such a manner that said friction-slide is permitted to accommodate itself freely to the position of the slat-bar, and the slats are retained in any position in which they may be brought, and at the same time the slats can be set to any desired angle by moving the slat-bar in the ordinary manner.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation with reference to the drawings.

A represents the frame of a window blind, which is constructed in the ordinary manner, and in the side strips of which the tenons *a* of the slats B have their bearings.

C is the slat-bar, which is hinged to the several slats by means of staples *b* in the ordinary manner, and which serves to turn the slats up or down to the desired position. If the slats turn loosely on their tenons, and they are turned into a horizontal or angular position, the weight of the slat-bar causes them to turn on their tenons and they cannot be made to retain the desired position, and if the tenons of the several slats work hard in their bearings, so that the slats will retain the position in which they may be brought, the exposure of the blind to the weather will cause the slats to bind, and they will work hard or cause the frame to split.

The various attempts made to overcome these difficulties by the application of friction devices have not been quite successful, because such devices have been applied to the wrong place—viz., one of the slats—whereby the whole strain caused by the friction device in operating the slats is thrown on one pair of tenons and on one slat, causing the device to get out of order very easy, or when applied to the slat-bar they have not been successful, because they interfere with the free motion of the slat-bar, or because the friction created by them is not sufficient to retain the slats in the desired position, particularly during a high wind. These defects are obviated by my device, which consists in a slide, *c*, which is subjected to the action of a spring, *d*, and which moves up and down in an open metal case, *e*, similar to a well-known device used for fastening curtains. The case *e* is rigidly attached to the slat-bar, and the spring-slide connects by means of a rod, *f*, with a staple, *g*, that is firmly inserted into the upper cross-bar of the frame. The lower end of the rod *f* is inserted into the spring *d*, so as to turn loosely in the same, and to interpose the least possible resistance to the lateral motion of the slat-bar. If it is desired to open or turn down the slats, the slat-bar is pulled down in the ordinary manner, and as the slat-bar moves down the slide *c* is drawn up in the case *e*, and the slat-bar and with it the slats are retained in any position in which they may be brought. The case *e* is secured to the side of the slat-bar, so that it does not in any way interfere with the opening and closing of the blind, and by bringing the connection-rod *f* to the frame and attaching it to the spring *d*, so as to form a swivel, the slat-bar is left perfectly free to move laterally or to oscillate in either direction without causing the slide *c* to bind and to interfere with the unobstructed adjustment of the slats.

Having thus freely described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The arrangement of the swivel-rod *f*, in combination with the spring-slide *c*, frame A, and slat-bar C, all constructed and operating substantially as and for the purpose shown and described.

JAMES A. McCREARY.

Witnesses:
I. W. COOMBS,
JAMES LAIRD.